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Mail Stop Amendment,
Commissioner for Patents,
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Anthony P. Curtis, Ph.D., Reg. No. 46,193

Name of applicant, assignee or
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Signature

1/12/06

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Our Case No. 9281-4715

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Tetsushi Tanada et al.)
Serial No.: 10/722,907) Examiner: Thanh Nguyen
Filing Date: November 25, 2003) Group Art Unit No.: 2871
For: REFLECTOR AND LIQUID DISPLAY)
PANEL)

Response to Election Requirement

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated November 1, 2005, requiring election between:

Species I: Figs. 4A and B, Claims 1, 4-5, 13-15, and 18-19 drawn to a reflector comprising an embossed layer having a reflective surface having a plurality of recesses; an embossed base disposed on a surface of the embossed layer opposing the reflective surface, wherein an inner surface of each recess includes two spherical surfaces having

different radii, wherein a reflectance is maximized at a reflection angle smaller than a reflection angle in a regular reflection direction; and

Species II: Figs. 6-7, Claims 1, 4-5, 13-14, and 16-17 drawn to a reflector comprising an embossed layer having a reflective surface having a plurality of recesses; an embossed base disposed on a surface of the embossed layer opposing the reflective surface, wherein the inclination angles of inner surfaces are set in the range of – 18 degrees to + 18 degrees, wherein the recesses have a substantially constant reflectance in an acceptance angle range of \pm 10 degrees around a regular reflection direction as a center to provide symmetrical distribution of reflection characteristics around the regular reflection direction.

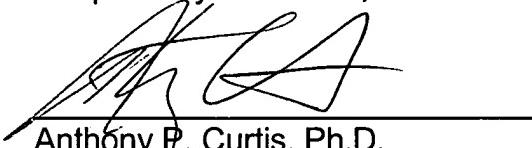
Applicants elect, with traverse, Species II: Claims 1, 4-5, 13-14, and 16-17. Applicants agree that at least Claims 1, 4-5, 13-14 are generic to both species.

In addition, Applicants traverse the election requirement at least as the characterization of the species is incorrect. The Examiner is evidently requiring election between the various types of recesses. The reflector shown in Fig. 6, however, is not limited to only one type of recess (that of Fig. 7 as indicated by the Examiner). To the contrary, as indicated in the text at p. 21, lines 8-10 ("[e]ach of the recesses 58b [is] preferably has a substantially spherical shape or an asymmetrically spherical shape"). Thus, the reflector structure shown in Fig. 6 may contain the recesses shown in Fig. 4A and B and/or Fig. 7, for example. Accordingly, for at least this reason, Applicants traverse the election requirement.

Conclusion

Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and seek an allowance thereof. If the Examiner is unable to allow the application in the next Office Action and believes that a telephone interview would be helpful to resolve any issues, he is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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